

little pricey, I only got a sandwich and a glass of water," she said "Oh, Lord."

Her stories about her family and her father and the perspective has been given here this afternoon. But can you imagine someone coming here while President Roosevelt was the President, Richard Nixon and Jack Kennedy were Members of Congress, and, it has already been spoken, World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, conflicts around the world with the Middle East, the Persian Gulf war, right on up to the present conflict in Iraq.

Her advice to us, and we took it, was, "You need your rest. Rest yourself." Can you hear Helen saying that? "Rest yourself." Or if you had a sandwich and you did not want anything to drink she would go around and get you a glass of water. "You have to wash that down with something. It is too dry. You need something to drink. You need your nourishment." How many times did we hear Helen say that? "You need your nourishment. You work too hard."

Mr. Speaker, we still talk about Helen in Helen's Cafe. And Miss Helen, Pat is doing a great job. She is following your suit. She is set in Helen's Cafe because of your gentle, serene example.

By the way, I have to say this through the Speaker, if you are heading across the Bay Bridge on that church bus and you are going to do what you like to do in Delaware, you have a standing invitation to stop at my house to play 500 rummy. Now, we might throw out a few pennies there, but there is a standing invitation from all of us.

Helen, we wish you Merry Christmas, the best of holidays, and your character, that secret impulse that you left us, will linger here for all time.

Thank you, Curt.

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am just going to conclude by thanking the Members for being here today, our ranking members. This could not have happened without Congresswoman JUANITA MILLENDER-MCDONALD being here and taking her time to give tribute, and, of course, the other Members, Congresswoman SHEILA JACKSON-LEE and Congressman GILCREST. Especially, of course, I want to thank Congressman WELDON of Pennsylvania for doing this, for giving Helen the honor that she so deserves.

Obviously, from everything that we have heard today, I think the whole Nation can understand the feeling we have for Helen and how we miss her being here. Of course, when I conclude, I am going to ask for the RECORD to be kept open because Members are going to want to submit statements for the record to Helen to give her the honor she so deserves. So we wish Helen the best.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER).

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I thank my very good friend, the chairman of

the House Administration Committee, for yielding me time.

I was just crossing a television between football games, getting ready to watch the Redskins beat the Cowboys in just a few minutes, and I caught this flower arrangement here, and then started to see these photographs of Helen up, and I said, My gosh, what is going on down here? And it brought back incredible memories for me.

As I know my colleagues on this side of the aisle know, I do not know if my colleagues on the other side of the aisle know, this is my 25th year here. I have served exactly half the amount of time that the Dean of the House, John Dingell, has served. So I have to tell about my first term.

In my first term, Helen Sewell was in an incredible ceremony that then Speaker Tip O'Neill presided over. She was honored in the Sam Rayburn Room right over there, and she was named the Employee of the Year for the U.S. Capitol. I do not know if it has been stated, but on one of the plaques we have right here out in the hallway, and we do not do this terribly often, we have not done it on an annual basis, and, in fact, after Helen Sewell received that reward, I think we went for a long period of time without honoring another employee of the year.

But I listened attentively as my friend from Maryland was talking about Helen making sure that people had enough food and drink in them to be sustained through these long hours of work. I will tell you as I listened to that, I was thinking, a number of us have been working very long hours, and I will tell you I take my hat off especially to the staff, for there has been literally no sleep for a lot of the staff members who are trying to get this very important work that we are proceeding with completed. But Helen would be here ensuring that everyone was very, very healthy; and she was an inspiration to all of us. I heard the bit about the soap operas and all that she followed so attentively.

But I thank my colleagues for recognizing Helen, because she was one of the first people I met when I came here a quarter century ago, and she could not have been any nicer to me then, and our thoughts and prayers are with her.

I look forward to seeing her cross that Bay Bridge and going to play cards with WAYNE GILCREST. I think that should be an interesting game when she stops by his house. But I thank my colleagues for recognizing Helen, who has been a great friend to so many of us.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I am particularly pleased to join my colleagues in honoring Helen Sewell as she retires from the House of Representatives. Helen Sewell has honored our city as a longtime resident and the House by devoting extraordinary service under the particularly difficult hours and circumstances of service in the cloak room. Ms. Sewell's devotion to the House, to the people of the United States, and to the District, whom we service,

has been so great that she was still serving at 80 years old. Her loyalty to the House and its work has given vital support to Members of Congress and to the important business of the country.

As the House honors Ms. Sewell and wish her well, the residents of the District of Columbia join me in thanking Helen Sewell for dedicated service to the House of Representatives.

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GILLMOR). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. NEY) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 633.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H. Res. 633.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 4 o'clock and 10 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

5861. A letter from the Administrator, Housing and Community Facilities Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Direct Single Family Housing Loans and Grants (RIN: 0575-AC54) received December 9, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5862. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Bifenazate; Pesticide Tolerances for Emergency Exemptions [EPA-HQ-OPP-2005-0276; FRL-7746-5] received December 15, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5863. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental